

## OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT DEFENDER

## G. PAUL MARX District Defender

## 15th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

**Parishes of Acadia - Lafayette - Vermilion** 600 Jefferson, Suite 902 P.O. Box 3622 Lafayette, La. 70502

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March 7, 2021

LOUISIANA ETHICS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM P.O. Box 4368 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

## **USPS CERTIFIED RECEIPT** 7015 0640 0003 4037 2310

REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION

DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER

**BOARD MEMBER FOR SUPERVISORY BOARD (LPDB)** 

The Louisiana Public Defender Board is the Regulatory Board for the Public Defender System. (R.S. 15:141 et seq) The District Defender manages the Public Defender Services in a Judicial District (R.S. 15:161) and I am an employee of the District, not the board. The Board requires a contract with me, sets my salary, makes the final decision on hiring, and has the authority to cancel the District Defender's Contract to run the district for good cause. The board has eleven members.

I was injured in a car accident and because my regular doctors won't treat personal injury patients, and potential major injury, I contacted a former contractor for the office and friend who now sits on the State Public Defender Board. He was able to get me in to see a doctor and to represent the District Defender in any claims necessary as any other personal injury client. We agreed that we should inquire of the board now that the emergency nature of the matter is past, and take any steps necessary to comply with Rules related to these facts.

The question is whether my contract with the board member would be a prohibited transaction under the Code of Governmental Ethics. This question is urgent because there may be serious injuries in this case.

Best Regards

G Paul Marx District Defender

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G Paul Max Lafayette, La. 70502 PO Box 3622 15th Judicial District DISRICT DEFENDER



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